

**The Vernon Headley Family Record Collection:
A Transcription of Some of Vernon Headley's Notes**

Collection Box 12-A, Atlantic County Historical Society, Somers Point, New Jersey

Transcribed by:
Carla Welsh (nee Seitz)

The following notes were found in Vernon Headley's record collection at The Atlantic County Historical Society, Collection Box 12-A. Vernon is the author's grandmother's brother. After Vernon's death, his notes were donated to the Atlantic County Historical Society by his daughter, but she kept the Headley records. The Headley records wound up with a distant cousin named Ronald Charles Headley, who lived in New York, and after Ronald's death, all the records were unfortunately discarded, except one binder of notes, now in possession of the author. The author has interjected notes in parentheses, and in italics, to explain what Vernon was referring to.

"Old Tales and Miscellaneous"

by:
Vernon Headley

John Headley (*John Mathis Headley, born 4 SEP 1804, was the son of John and Mary Headley [nee Mathis]*) of Waretown (*Waretown was a village in Stafford Township, Monmouth County, New Jersey*) married Phoebe Lamson and had two children. John Headley was a seaman aboard a coast mine and sailing a schooner in the winter of 18--. He died of exposure (*circa 1835*), probably pneumonia, age 31-32, leaving his wife and 2 children. To get away from the sea, his wife took the children to Philadelphia (*correction: Phoebe most likely took Elwood to Camden, not Philadelphia*) and obtained work there (*Phoebe was a seamstress*). She appointed son Elwood to a tailor. Elwood was trained to cut and sew, and the tailor had him sitting cross legged in a store window sewing in the tailoring fashion of the day, which drew spectation to the window to see a small tow headed boy at work, being small for his age. Without exercise and lack of ventilation in this position, Elwood grew sickly. The family soon returned to Waretown with her parents (*correction: Phoebe's father, Edward Lamson, was already dead so she must have only returned to her mother; Catherine Lamson [nee Bennett], or other family*). Elwood grew up there working for a ship builder, learning ___ draw bar, hatchet, adze, and other tools of the day. Adze is like an axe, except the head is faced broadside to the handle and was used on decks and keels that needed leveling that had warped edges. Imagine standing on the floor, and swinging the adze down to the floor to the front of your foot, directly under the sole of your shoe. I have watched an adze man stand on a butcher's block, which was worn into hollows and hills, and chop a perfectly smooth and level top, restoring it like new. Of course, today we have power grinders and sanders.

Elwood Headley, Jr., (*the 2nd*) was the youngest son of Elwood (*Elwood Headley, Sr., the 1st*) and Edith Brown (*Edith Brown was Elwood's 1st wife, and they were actually distant cousins*). He was a steady, industrious worker. He had a dairy in Atlantic City with his brother, Atwood (*Albert Atwood Headley*). He sold milk wholesale. I remember him at my father's store (*Vernon's father was Elvern Bacon Headley, and the store was called EB Headley Groceries*) bringing milk in larger dairy cans. They had no bottles or cartons then, and my father sold the milk by the dipper. This method didn't last long, as the big milk companies came to town with bottled milk. Elwood, Jr., seeing my father's grocery business, sold his inherent dairy and opened a store on Arctic Avenue between ___ and Iowa Avenues and prospered there. His children were Paul, who became the owner of Ventnor Photo Service, but died fairly young. Kate, who married Albert Keller, Meredith who died fairly young, Elwood, the 3rd, and Robert who was an electrician.

Elwood, the 3rd, was the only athlete in the family, made a name for himself in Atlantic City High School, State Champions, went on to ___ MD? College and played football there. He was a poor student, like many athletes, and returned to Atlantic City, where he spent years driving a Coca Cola truck in Atlantic City. He finally quit that,

and moved to Nashville, Tennessee, but what he did there, I have no knowledge. He had 2 sons, one was a doctor, and the other a football tackler at Tennessee University who died in the Vietnam War (*Elwood, the 3rd, married Elizabeth Glatterer and had 2 sons: Dr. Elwood Headley, the 4th, and Charles Paul Headley; Charles died in Vietnam*).

Family did not continue the store, but was sold to Arthur Handson, a butcher, a very likeable man who was my neighbor on Delancey Place, Atlantic City. Arthur Handson changed the store to a butcher shop and many people came there to buy meat, ____ on the mainland. He finally returned to Scullville.

When I question relatives or other people I know about their family relations, I am constantly amazed when I find they don't know or they never saw their grandparents, when they lived within walking distance.

I was fortunate in knowing all my grandparents from the time I was old enough to recognize them until they died of old age. As a child, I visited my father's parents, Elwood and Ellen Headley (*Ellen "Nellie" Maria Headley [nee Bacon]. Ellen was Elwood's 2nd wife. Elwood's 1st wife was Edith Brown*), usually on a Sunday after church, with my sisters, since they lived only 2 streets away from home in Atlantic City. My grandfather, Elwood Headley, was very old at that time, since he was 20 years older than my grandmother, and was always seated in a Morris Chair and napped quite a bit of the time I was there. My grandmother was always busy, usually getting things ready for dinner, but she was full of talk and always wanted to know about us kids, and knowing us, would give us tea and crackers. In those days, Emroe and Violet lived with them, and Emroe would wind up his Victor Phonograph and play records for us. He would laugh a lot more at his ____ records than we did. He usually stayed in the combination dining room and kitchen because grandmom was usually getting things ready for dinner. She always gave me a boy's book of adventure for Christmas since she knew I liked to read. She was a little woman, couldn't have weighed over 90 lbs, looked very frail, was always busy, taking care of house and family and made her rounds of collecting rents due her. She owned 2 houses and 2 stores which she rented out.

Emroe was a clerk at a grocery store on Arctic Avenue near home, though I don't think he made much money. Violet was much younger than Emroe and worked some at various places. For a while, she worked in my father's store. At that time, she and her boyfriend, Fred, took me to see Buffalo Bill's Wild West show at the Inlet Park when I was about 12 years old (*around 1917*). The show was exactly like I've seen on TV in the last year or so-- Cowboys and Indians shooting at each other, trick reading?, rifle shooting, the works.

I remember when I was about 15, when I was driving in my father's Buick, my father and I would take my grandmother to the doctor at New York and Pacific Avenues for her cataract eye troubles, but I know now he didn't help her, since cataract operations were unknown then. She died about age 85 on a Sunday morning on Pacific Avenue at the church trying to cross the street without any help. She couldn't see traffic, but would wait until she didn't hear any cars, then make a dash to cross, but a jitney hit her and killed her (*Ellen "Nellie" Maria Headley [nee Bacon] actually died several days later after being hit by the jitney; she died on 6 JAN 1928*). The driver was blameless. Grandpop (*Elwood Headley*) died in 1924, and his funeral was held at our church. My cousin Elwood Headley, the 3rd, was one of the pall bearers with me. He hardly knew his grandfather, had not visited him at all, though he and his family lived only a half a block away from my grandfather.

Way back in my time, when I was about 5 or 6 years old, my mother (*Ella Headley [nee Jeffries]*) took my oldest sister Dorothy and me to see her parents in Steelmanville (*Ella's parents were Daniel Walter Jeffries and Nancy "Annie" Jeffries [nee Mason]*). This was a great adventure for me, since we went on the trolley at Florida Avenue, the next street from where we lived across the thoroughfare (which we called the Bay) on the only original road between Atlantic City and the mainland to Pleasantville. There the trolley turned the corner at Main Street and headed south towards Somers Point. We rode to Ocean Heights Avenue, got off there, and started walking. It was a 2 mile walk to Fire Road, the crossroads of Steelmanville Crossing, Fire Road, we came to my grandparent's home. Walter and Annie Jeffries (*Daniel went by his middle name of Walter, and the nickname for Nancy is Anne*) had lived in the house since the time he built it himself and where their children grew up. It was a two story house with a front porch that nobody used, and a side porch that everyone used. A huge tree was at the front of the house with a swing attached. From the side porch was the kitchen and dining room, all in one. From the side porch had a water well and pump, their only supply of water. Grandmom would put her butter in a closed tin pail and lower it into the well on a string, and of course, the well had a board cover over it. She had the old fashioned Cook Stove, and I loved the bread

she baked in it, as we never had home-made bread at home. She was a little woman, straight black hair in a knot in the back of her head, as strong as any of her sons or husband. If nobody had split any logs for the cook stove, she would get furious, fly out of the house, take up the axe and split the wood herself. She took care of the chickens, and could chop off their heads, defeather them, cut them up and have them for dinner if need be, all by herself.

The middle room was really the living room with an old fashioned foot pump organ. The front room was called the parlor and I never saw anyone use it though we kids were allowed in it, though there was no comfort there. The horse hair covered chairs and sofa would stick our bare legs and rear, but the attraction in that room to me was the stuffed owl and squirrel under a glass dome and a huge rattle snake skin hanging on a board on the wall about 4 feet long.

Grandpop (*Daniel Walter Jeffries*) was a carpenter and worked mainly in Ocean City and was the foreman when the piers were built from the boardwalk to the ocean. When there wasn't any carpenter work, he was a bayman, fishing and clamming. He always had a garvey (a square ended boat) and had the long clam tongs for clamming off the shore of Great Egg Harbor River at Somers Point. His sons Somers and Fred carpentered and were baymen like their father. The younger brother Walter, always called "Waldy," was the farmer and sometimes worked on neighborhood farms. All Steelmanville was farmland, and all of the Jeffries clan had farms.

Grandpop (*Daniel Walter Jeffries*) had sandy red hair and red moustache. He played a fiddle straight up on his knee, and never under his chin and could whip up a lively tune like "___ in the ___". He built garveys in the yard and I guess he sold them. Right in the back of the house was the summer house, half underground where he stored his crops. Later, years after he gave up farming he installed a ___ tank and gas works in the storage house which was piped into the house for gas lights. Before that the only light they used were oil lamps. They never had anything but an outdoor privy, behind the storage house, then the chicken pen, then a big barn, where he kept a plow, harness, and equipment. I never saw a horse, cow, or pig on the property, though my mother said they had a cow when she was young.

My grandfather (*Daniel Walter Jeffries*) finally bought a star automobile and he would drive that like he was driving a horse. He was the worst driver I ever saw. In his later years, the car ran off the road, hit a tree, broke my grandmother's shoulder, and put her in the hospital in Somers Point, though she wouldn't stay there after they fixed her shoulder, they were fierce old timers. Their daughter Reva was the youngest and had sandy red hair like her father, as did Waldy. The other sons all had black hair like their mother. My mother's hair was auburn but turned darker with age (*Vernon's mother is Ella Headley [nee Jeffries], who married Elvern Bacon Headley*).

On our first visit there that I can remember, we visited our great-grandparents on Ocean Heights Road (*Vernon's great-grandparents are Evin Jeffries, Jr., and Hannah Jeffries [nee Risley]*). The house has been torn down long ago and the Garden State Highway runs just about over it. They had a big, elaborate house with the best of everything, since great-granddad was a successful oyster and clam dealer. He owned a great bit of land there and his sons farmed it up to late times. I can't remember anything much of them, though I know we had dinner there, and they had servants, since both of my greats were very old (*Evin died before Vernon was born, but Hannah was still alive. Vernon was around 5 when she died in 1910*).

My grandparents never had a doctor. My grandmother (*Nancy "Annie" Jeffries [nee Mason]*) died probably from neglecting her health, and my grandfather (*Daniel Walter Jeffries*) died from uremic poisoning.

Later years, when we were a little older, my father would take all of us in his Ford truck to meet the Jeffries. We were a happy gang and would sing all the way to Steelmanville, with my mother leading the singing. When we left there at night, we kids would all sleep on the truck floor all the way home.

One incident I remember so well was in a summer visit. Waldy had bought an old Indian motorcycle and was slowing ___ and ___ as he called it. He took it out on the road, couldn't get it started with the foot crank then ran with it and would jump on thinking it would not start. He came back towards the house, into the yard and dripping wet and exhaust, fell with the bike into the firewood pile. He got up in a rage, grabbed the axe, and took one big swing at the motorcycle. He hit the flywheel and that was the end of the bike. Grandmom (*Nancy "Annie" Jeffries [nee Mason]*) was watching him from the side porch with us and was laughing at him as he came in the yard with the bike. She giggled when he used the axe on it, and then had to go in the house so he wouldn't see her laughing. He came in the porch and stuck his head under the water pipe and nobody said a word.

2522 Fairmount -

After the store property was moved to Fairmount Avenue, additions and many alterations were made over the years. Mostly early done by my grandfather for my father. Chimey? appeared and disappeared there that year. The room directly back of the store was used by my father to store the surplus goods he bought, barrels and bags and canned goods. He lived first in the back part. The room in the back of the storage room was the living room, dining room, and kitchen all in one, and a stairway led to the upstairs back room. Going up from Fairmount Terrace side he had a back porch which housed a privy on the Texas Avenue side. In the summer, we ate many times on the back porch. Another privy in front of ours, opening on to the Texas Avenue side alley was used by the people, the Truitts, who rented the rest of the upper floor with the storage on Texas Avenue side. There were no bathrooms, and our lighting was by oil lamps at first, replaced by gas jets and globes, and eventually electricity was installed. Our heat was supplied by a wood stove and a ___ stove, which we could move around, convenient because father sold kerosene from a tank in the store, and sold coal from a coal bin on Fairmount Terrace. I chopped many leftover boxes for firewood in our wood stove. There was no other heat in the house. When the gas lights grew dim, we had to rush into the store to get a quarter, rush back to climb on a chair along the kitchen wall, and put a quarter into the meter slot overhead to restore the gas flow. Gas mantles were required.

Two incidents stick in my mind about the old stairway. My mother woke up my father and told him a burglar was breaking in the downstairs window. My father lit the oil lamp, got his revolver, and headed down the stairs with a gun in one hand and oil lamp in the other, a perfect target for anyone at the window. However, it was enough to chase anyone away.

Another time, my sister Dot and I were fighting at the top of the stairs and she pushed me down the stairs and I landed at the bottom without harm.

The Truitts moved out and mom took possession of the upstairs rooms. The old stairway was done away with, the open flooring was boarded over, a doorway was made from the store room which became our living room second floor just in time, as our family was growing. The grocery storage room became the living room, the back room was divided by a new wall into the dining room and kitchen. Eventually, a bathroom was installed upstairs and walled off from the old back bedroom. The kitchen lost more space to a new hot oil burner as hot water radiators were installed in the whole house. Many cold mornings upon getting up in the morning we would grab our clothing and rush downstairs to the hot wood stove before putting on our clothes.

Grandfather (*Elwood Headley*) came to Atlantic City 1875 to work in expanding Atlantic City. One tough job was working on the Dennis Hotel, the old original one. It was made of wood and grandpop said the heavy timbers which had to be installed by the carpenters nearly broke their backs. He was glad to get done with that place.

He built his house at Florida and Centennial Avenues. That house was sold when my grandmother (*Ellen "Nellie" Maria Headley [nee Bacon]*) found the opportunity to buy a house on a large lot on Texas and Arctic Avenues to Centennial Terrace (*Atlantic City bought their plot of land from them circa 1907 to build the Texas Avenue School*). Here they had cows and horses and began to prosper. The cows were driven by his sons daily beyond Boston and Arctic Avenues to a pasture in a vacant land there. His sons Elwood and Atwood (*Albert*) started a dairy and were successful for some years with it, finally selling out since Elwood started a grocery store on Arctic Avenue near Iowa Avenue. Very prosperous. Atwood continued with a milk route by horse and wagon, selling dippers of milk from the wagon. He did not prosper and died where he lived on Iowa Avenue across from his brothers _____. His daughters had grown up and he left them with his wife. All his business gone.

Grandmom Headley (*Ellen "Nellie" Maria Headley [nee Bacon]*) never had a doctor except for her eyes. She had cataracts and my father and I would take her to a doctor to treat her, but he couldn't do much for her since at that time there was no treatment for cataracts. I would drive the Buick and wait at the doctor's office while he took her in to the doctor's. I remember 3 or 4 times but then they gave up going. Her eyes were her downfall, because she was going to church and tried to cross Pacific Avenue, but a jitney hit her and killed her. I never saw her wear glasses, though she had been a teacher and an avid reader. She was well educated, a good business woman, handled many financial deals, and never spent any money except for necessities, except at Christmas she always had presents for us kids. My sister Mildred was the only one of us who spent a lot of time with our grandmother, though we would on Sundays when we were young. Their house caught fire and the firemen threw piles of books and other

things on it. The alley to confirm the fire ____ some dollar bills among the books and they all began to ____ for the money. Emroe was standing ground over the pile, but he couldn't prevent them from stealing things. The books were my grandmother's bank, and no one knew of it until the fire. Her grandmother (*Ellen's grandmother was Aurelia Bacon [nee Allen] of Chautauqua, New York*) who instructed her in many things, and taught her ____, which no one knew of in our neighborhood.



Newspaper Clipping found in the Vernon Headley Record Collection, Collection Box 12-A, Atlantic County Historical Society, Somers Point, New Jersey. The Texas Avenue School in Atlantic City now stands where the Headley's cow barn used to stand in the 1880s. Photo of the newspaper clipping taken by the author.

Evan Jeffries married Hannah Walters (**wrong**). Hannah is daughter of Captain Dan Walters (**wrong**). Her brother is also named Dan Walters (**wrong**). Oyster Dealer, loaded and covered wagon with wet seaweed to Woodbury.

**Even though Vernon Headley visited with Hannah when he was a young boy, he never knew her maiden name, which was "Risley." Hannah was Vernon's great-grandmother. Hannah Jeffries (nee Risley) was the daughter of Samuel and Mary "Polly" Risley (nee Stebbins). Hannah's grandparents were Nathaniel and Sarah Risley (nee Steelman), and her great-grandparents were Jeremiah and Margaret Risley (nee Doughty), of Great Egg Harbor Township, Gloucester County, New Jersey. Nathaniel and Jeremiah were both in the American Revolution, and the author has found all proofs for herself and all descendants of this line to join DAR and SAR (Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution, a lineage based society). The Risley line continues back to Richard Risley, who came to the New World from England in 1633, and was one of the founders of Hartford, Connecticut. The Steelman line continues back to Hans Mansson, a convict indentured servant who came to the New World from Sweden, and to Olaf Stille, a prominent early Swedish settler to the present day area of Eddystone, Delaware County, Pennsylvania. The present-day Ridley Creek in Delaware County was originally named after Olaf, and it was called "Stille's Priest." Olaf Stille was born in 1610 in Sweden, and he died circa 1684 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.*

**Vernon Headley was confusing Hannah's sister Amelia's information with Hannah. Her sister Amelia married Captain Daniel Walters.*

Jeffries's father and son both signed up and enlisted but since that son had such a large family his father volunteered to go in his place.

**This is referring to John W. Jeffries, Sr., who served as Private in the Great Egg Harbor Township, Gloucester County, New Jersey militia. John was married to Judith Steelman, daughter of Andrew Steelman, Jr., and Hannah Steelman Scull (nee Ingersoll). John and Judith Jeffries (nee Steelman) are buried side by side in Zion United Methodist Church Cemetery, Zion Road, Egg Harbor Township, Atlantic County, New Jersey. Vernon Headley's great-grandfather, Evin Jeffries, Jr., was the son of Evan Jeffries/Jeffries, Sr., and Sarah "Sallie" Jeffries/Jeffries (nee Young). Evan Jeffries/Jeffries, Sr., was the son of John W. Jeffries, Sr., and Judith Jeffries (nee Steelman).*

Evan is pronounced like in "given". In later years, ___ named her son Evan but he tried to make it sound right by spelling it "Ivan", which was a mistake, for it sounded like the Russian name.

Mom (Ella Headley [nee Jeffries]) was a seamstress, came to Atlantic City, hired by EB pronounced "Tbby" Parsells (*I think Vernon is referring to Evan J. Parsells*). He was well to do, living on South Indian Avenue, and my mother was a housemaid there with another girl until she married my father (Elvern Bacon Headley). Later, his (EB Parsells) wife died and he remarried and somewhere along the way he lost his wealth or spent it. He (Parsells) remarried and had 2 daughters by her. Moved to 2520 Fairmount Avenue, one of my father's homes. Next to Fairmount Terrace. He had a son, Stanley, who played football at Atlantic City High School, was strong, handsome, blonde, and was offered a chance in the movies, but his father objected on religious grounds, so Stanley didn't go to Hollywood. He sang in the choir at Christ Methodist Church. He became football coach at Pleasantville High School, later sold hearing aides, and died fairly young (*I think Vernon is referring to Evan Stanley Parsells, born 21 NOV 1896*).

John Headley 1768-1853 married Mary Mathis 1768-1863, daughter of Nehemiah. Mary Mathis Headley lived to age 95. She was familiar with the families of Tuckerton (New Jersey) and supplied Leah Blackman (*author of "History of Little Egg Harbor Township"*) which is the only basic genealogy for that area.

John and Mary had a son, John Headley 9/4/1804 to 1835 of Waretown, NJ (*John Mathis Headley*). He married Phoebe Lamson whose father was a sea captain (*her father was Captain Edward Lamson, 1790-1832, husband of Catherine Bennett, 1789-1872. Catherine Lamson [nee Bennett]'s father was Samuel Bennett, of Stafford Township, who was in the Revolution. Edward Lamson's mother, Ruth Lamson [nee Lewis], 1765-1844, is a proven descendant of Stephen Hopkins and John Howland, passengers who came to the New World aboard the Mayflower in 1620, accepted by the General Society of Mayflower Descendants. Ruth is a descendant of several Mayflower passengers, actually*). John Headley was a seaman and had a short life as he died of "exposure". Whether he died of pneumonia from the freezing weather at sea is not known by my family. He left 2 sons, Joseph born 1830 who

married Rachel Bowker (*Vernon was told this by his father Elvern Bacon Headley. Supposedly, Joseph was given to Moses Headley and Harriet Corlies to raise, but the author has found discrepancies with this, and Joseph does not appear to be a son*) and Elwood Headley born 8/12/1832 (12 AUG 1832) at Waretown and married Edith Brown (*Edith Brown happened to be a distant cousin to Elwood. She was his 1st wife. Elwood's 2nd wife is Ellen "Nellie" Maria Bacon*).

John S. Headley (*John S. Headley is son of Elwood Headley and 1st wife, Edith Brown*) like his father was a carpenter, lived on Texas Avenue, had 2 daughters (*he actually had 3 daughters - Margaret, Maude, and Elsie*). Grandson Ralph Reed (*Ralph is son of Maude Headley and Mark Reed*) was an army captain in World War 2. A missionary in Thailand. He returned with his wife (*Judy*) and is now Reverend Reed - Tuckerton Presbyterian Church. John's grandchildren all live in Pleasantville.

Garrison "Garry" Camburn Headley (*son of Elwood Headley and 1st wife, Edith Brown*) married Anna "Alexis" Lear, daughter of a building contractor at Bridgeton. He was raised by the Camburns. Their son was drowned when young and Elwood and Edith gave their second son to fill the gap for the Camburns. Garrison was a big man, tall and broad and enterprising. One of his first ventures was a paint factory where he set up in Atlantic City a little west of Arctic and Texas Avenue which later became Mason's Terrace, across from the Texas Avenue School. J? Henry Mason built the row home. That became Mason's Terrace. My father was very young at the time but he remembered the paint factory since he fell playing around the machinery and hurt his leg there. I asked what kind of machinery. My father (*Elvern Bacon Headley*) said, "there were buckets on some conveyor chains that carried various materials which dumped into a big tank, which mixed them with a revolving paddle affair". I said, "you mean he had conveyor belts back then?" "Yes," he said, "but more like a coal conveyor that you see in the coal yard." "What ran all this contraption?" I asked. He said, "he had a steam engine that chugged along all day if he was busy," which bothered my mother in our house across the street. "Was this in a big building?" "No." While it had a roof over it, it was mostly all open, ___ of the smell. "Then what, did he sell gallon cans?" "Oh no, he had big cans like 10 gallons or 50 gallon drums and more for painting contractors." The paint manufacturers of Philadelphia put him out of business by selling gallon ___ and cheaper prices long ago.

I never heard of paint manufacturers in Atlantic City. Well, he did, and also he cut hay in the meadows with teams of horses all the way from Atlantic City to Leeds Point; and other times he was a building contractor and in the lumber business. Bridgeton Carpenter and deliveries. Most of the Headleys were in the building business ___.

Garry (Garrison Camburn Headley) had children. Captain Leon lived and moved to Leeds Point and had a charter fishing boat.

The following is a letter which Vernon Headley wrote to Dottie (Dorothy Cioeta Hanson [nee Seitz]), his niece.

To: Dottie Hanson,

I don't think I gave you much on the maternal side of the family. I forget what maternal I gave you, that is what parts of it. I have been surprised to find that all sides of our family came to America at such an early date...

The Jeffries came into New Jersey as early as 1680 to the North Jersey coast and spread to South Jersey. My mother knew the Masons came in 1702 when Queene Anne made divisions in West Jersey for English settlers which of course included North Ireland. Masonville is an old term about NorthEast of Haddonfield... our Mason branch spread to Medford, Indian Mills, and to Great Egg Harbor --- Mays Landing, Absecon, Steelmanville, etc..

Daniel Walter Jeffries marries Nancy Mason and their daughter is Ella Jeffries.

Vernie = J C VanDyke, the lawyer mentioned in Heston's book - later became attorney general for Pennsylvania (*Vernon is referring to his sister, Elverna Bernice Headley, 1914-2017. Elverna "Vernie" married George William VanDyke, son of Jacob*).

As a kid I frequented the Florida Ave bridge, as a lot of other kids did, a bridge tender lived nearby and his job was to raise and close the center section of the bridge for large boats passing through. This was done with what looked like a grant key and when the stem was set in the socket of the bridge, and the long handles were walked around and around, the center section turned, opening the bridge so the boats could pass through then reversing the

walk around the bridge would close. We kids loved to help turn the key. This bridge was used by the trolley which operated from the Bark and ran to ____ on the original old turnpike.

The Jeffries' large families were not very interested in each others' families, and were too interested in their own welfare, probably their Scotch blood. The Mason' large families weren't much different, and didn't form a will. Dr. James Mason and his brother Lew Mason, grandson of J. Henry Mason, a wealthy wholesale grocer in AC, put out a call for a Mason reunion. I had talked to Lew Mason many times at lunch about some of the family, but he went along with Dr. Mason for the reunion in Bargaintown (*Bargaintown is in Egg Harbor Township, New Jersey. Lew Mason is Lewis "Lew" Frambes Mason, 1895-1985*). I knew what would happen and didn't go. Lew told me later he never saw such people, and where did they come from, and did they belong to the same family. I laughed at him and said they came out of the woods and they are of the same family. In the earliest times I was there, I remember they had oil lamps for lighting, no heat in the register in the bedrooms, like us in Atlantic City. In the parlors, they never used it. There was a wood stove in the living room and the big coal stove in the kitchen which was also in the dining room. Much later grandpop (*Daniel Walter Jeffries*) had ____ in for light and had an ____ in the summer house. ____ one house he overloaded it and it blew him right out of the summer ____ house (*I can't decipher if he wrote gas pipelines maybe?*).

Grandpop (*Daniel Walter Jeffries*) worked at carpentry in Atlantic and Ocean City monthly and in the summertime. When there was no work he farmed his 10 acres. He had a row of pear trees along the other side of the house, a grape arbor before the spring, a summer house for storing vegetables, only the roof showed above ground in the back of the house, and a big barn at the peak of all that. At one time they had a cow, but from my earliest time, the barn was empty until he bought a "Star" automobile, ____, which he drove like he was landing a horse. Some years after I was there, he and my grandmom (*Nancy "Annie" Jeffries [nee Mason]*), were driving on the road and he ran off the road into a tree, smashed the car, and grandmom went to the hospital with a broken shoulder -- he never had a car after that.

Grandpop built his own boats, usually a garvey which was bigger than a rowboat and was flat bottomed and square ended -- for which he used for clamming and fishing, usually at Somers Point. One time, he took me and my father (*Elvern Bacon Headley*) out in the bay along with his clam tongs and he stopped rowing and was talking to my father. I got out my penknife and was fooling with something when I dropped my knife overboard. I gave a yelp and my grandfather who was sitting found us, saw what I had done, and he took his clam tongs and came back to where I was and put his tong straight down in the bay where I was, brought up a huge mess from the bottom of the bay, and then there was my knife in the pile. I grabbed my knife and he dropped the mess back in. I could hardly believe it. He just grinned.

Fred was a carpenter, married and moved down to Ocean View in Cape May and had a lot of kids. Walter farmed at the Wallace's nearby and lived there (*Vernon is referring to Fred Jeffries and Walter Jeffries who are the children of Daniel Walter Jeffries and Nancy "Annie" Jeffries [nee Mason]. Fred and Walter are the brothers of Ella Headley [nee Jeffries]*).